(ख) क्या संसद सदस्यों के ऐसे पत्रों के आधार पर सम्बद्ध अधिकारी को सी० सी० एस० (आचरण) नियम, 1964 के नियम 20 के अधीन एक ज्ञापन जारी किया जाता है और यदि हाँ, तो क्या इस प्रकार की कार्यवाही करना किसी संसद सदस्य के विशेषाधिकारों की कटौती/हनन नहीं है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार ऐसे मामलों में किसी कर्मचारी के लिए ज्ञापन जारी करने वाले अधिकारी के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करेगी; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार संसद सदस्यों को कर्मचारियों की सेवाओं के मामले में ऐसे पत्र न लिखने के संबंध में मार्गनिर्देश के रूप में परिपत्र जारी करेगी ?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मारग्रेट आल्वा) : (क) से (घ) केन्द्रीय सिविल सेवा (आचरण) नियमावली में यह प्रावधान है कि कोई भी सरकारी कर्मचारी, सरकार के अधीन अपनी सेवा के हितार्थ किसी उच्च अधिकारी पर, कोई राजनैतिक या बाहरी प्रभाव नहीं डालेगा या डालने का प्रयास नहीं करेगा । इस नियम का उल्लंघन करने वाले सरकारी कर्मचारी के विरुद्ध यथोचित कार्यवाही करना उसके अपने प्रशासनिक प्राधिकारी की जिम्मेवारी है । सरकारी कर्मचारी के पास अपनी सेवा संबंधी शिकायतों के समाधान के लिए पर्याप्त शासकीय उपायों की उपलब्धता को देखते हुये इस नियम के प्रावधान संसद सदस्य के विशेषाधिकारों पर कोई प्रभाव नहीं डालते । ऐसे मामलों में दिशानिर्देशों के रूप में संसद सदस्यों को परिपत्र जारी करने का भी कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Special allowance in lieu of O.T. allowance to Parliament Assistants

4007. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that overtime allowance is not payable to Parliament Assistants in various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that considering the nature of duties and time spent by these Assistants in discharging their duties, Government had fixed a monthly allowance for them long ago which was comparatively higher than the amount of overtime allowance that would have been paid to them at that time ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that rates of overtime allowance for Government servants have been revised but the amount of special allowance for Parliament Assistants has not been correspondingly revised ;

(d) if so, what is the average hour of work done per day by a Parliament Assistant during Session of Parliament and whether the amount of special allowance presently being paid is commensurate with the work done by them ; and

(e) if not, what steps Government propose to take to sou-moto revise the rates of allowance for them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) While the rates of OTA have been revised only once after 1974, i.e. in March, 1991, the rates of Special Allowance have since been revised twice, first in August, 1978 and then in April, 1986 (with retrospective effect from 7-10-1980). OTA is payable on the basis of actual extra working hours put in by an employee, whereas special allowance is payable at fixed rates of Rs. 300 p.m. for Assistants and Rs. 225 p.m. for UDCs. The Staff side had raised a demand in the Departmental Council of Deptt. of Personnel & Trg. in 1990 for an increase in the allowance. Since the demand was not accepted, it stands referred to the Board of Arbitration as per JCM procedure.

Reservation for women in Central Government Services

4008. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to provide 30 per cent reservation for women in Central Government services has since been finalised ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (c) The matter is still under consideration.

Guidelines issued to deal with references received from Members of Parliament

4009. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some guidelines have been issued to all Ministries and Government offices to deal with references received from M.Ps. ;

(b) if so, the details alongwith date of issue of the same ;

(c) whether these guidelines have ever been revised further ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether Government are aware that these references are either not replied to within prescribed time limit by majority of offices while in other cases these are never replied by some Government offices, despite reminder, thus wasting huge amount of time in correspondence ;

(f) whether Government propose to revise the existing instructions and also call for some progress reports on such references from all Government offices every month to watch implementation of existing instructions ; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b) Yes. The detailed guidelines to deal with the references received from MPs. have been issued to all Ministries and other Government offices vide paras 57, 60 and 122 of the 10th Edition of Manual of Office Procedure (MOP) published in March, 1987.

2. These guidelines provide that communications received from MPs. will be attended to promptly and replied to within 15 days. However, where delay is anticipated in sending a final reply or information is to be obtained from any other Ministry or another office, an interim reply will be sent within a fortnight indicating the possible date by which a final reply can be given. In case a letter has been addressed to a Minister, it should as far as practicable be replied to by the Minister himself.

For keeping a watch on disposal of communications received from Members of Parliament, every section is required to keep a register of such communications. The position of their disposal and reasons for pendency need be placed before the Senior Officers at fortnightly intervals for scrutiny and orders for appropriate action where necessary. Instructions have also been issued to all Ministries/Departments to monitor the disposal of MPs. references through their Internal Work Study/O & M Units.

(c) and (d) Yes. Para 57(2) of the MOP has been amended in October, 1993 which provides that a reply to an MP should normally be issued over the signature of the officer of the rank of Secretary only (as against not below the rank of Joint Secretary provided earlier).

(e) to (g) It is felt that the existing system of monitoring through the concerned Ministries/Departments is adequate. Further, these guidelines are reiterated from time to time for strict compliance.

Revision of Special Parliament Allowance of Assistants

4010. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Employees Association had demanded that the amount of special allowance payable to Parliament Assistants in various Ministries be revised ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government did not revise the amount but had referred the demand to the Board of Arbitration for adjudication, long ago ;

(c) whether the Board of Arbitration has not been taking up this matter for consideration on the ground that Government have to take a decision on a similar point in another matter ;

(d) if so, by when Government would convey its decision on that similar points ; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to expedite the adjudication of the reference by the Board of Arbitration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b) The Staff side in the Departmental Council (JCM) of the Department of Personnel and Training had demanded an increase in the rates of Special allowance and treatment of the allowance as pay for all purposes. The demand was not accepted and has been referred to the Board of Arbitration as per the JCM Scheme.

(c) to (e) The Board of Arbitration has taken a stand that the decision on the demand to treat special pay as pay for all purposes, which is pending in the National Council, should be awaited before proceeding further. As soon as a decision is taken in the National Council it will be placed before the Board of Arbitration for its consideration.

Employment of Compassionate Grounds

4011. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has recently given a Judgement relating to employment on compassionate grounds ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what are Government's latest instructions in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b)